GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:15
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2008
RESEARCH FOR NEW MEDICINES
Singh Shri Ganesh

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the research for development of new medicines being conducted in the laboratories of CSIR;

(b) whether the pace of research is satisfactory;

(c) the amount allocated for this purpose during each of the last three years; and

(d) the amount spent thereon during the said period?

Answer

MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) CSIR has made significant contributions in the development of new medicines through many of its laboratories. Of these laboratories, Central Drug Research Institute (CDRI) has the major focus on research on new medicines. In addition, many other institutes of CSIR like Indian Institute of Chemical Biology (IICB), Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine-Jammu (IIIM-J), Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (IICT), Institute of Microbial Technology (IMT), Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB), Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology (IGIB) etc. complement and augment this research. These laboratories work for the discovery and development of new medicines from synthetic as well as natural resources. The priority disease conditions for research are Malaria, Tuberculosis, Diabetes ,Cardiovascular disease, Neurological disorders , Gastric Ulcer, Cancer, Reproductive Health , Osteoporosis etc.Some of the major programmes taken up b y these laboratories i n the Eleventh Five Year Plan are New drug development programme for parasitic diseases and microbial infections (CDRI), Development of novel target based anticancer therapeutics (IIIM-J), Diabetes Mellitus− New Drug discovery R&D, Molecular mechanisms and genetic factors (CDRI), Development of diagnostics and target based molecular medicines against allergy bronchial asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (IICB), Discovery and Preclinical studies of new bioactive molecules (natural and semi − synthetic) and Traditional Preparations etc.

(b) Yes Sir. The pace of research in this area is satisfactory.

(c)&(d) The allocation and utilization of funds for the last three years for CSIR laboratories is about Rs. 50 crore for 2004-05, Rs. 90 crore for 2005-06 and Rs. 75 crore for 2006-07.